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SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 1, line 3, please delete the word "DESCRIPTION" and insert the following centered heading:

"BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION"

On page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

"Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method of ~~analysing~~ analyzing a stack of flat objects as well as to a device for ~~analysing~~ analyzing a stack of flat objects. The present invention in particular pertains to a device and a method of ~~analysing~~ analyzing a bundle of banknotes, which method comprises the steps of providing a bundle of banknotes, which bundle comprises at least one surface defined by the edges of banknotes, illuminating the surface of said bundle, providing a two-dimensional image of the bundle by making use of an optical sensor, and providing an output signal that represents the result of the analysis."

On page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 13 as follows:

"Description of the Related Art

From International application WO 01/50426 there is known a method of determining a characteristic of a banknote including a sheet-like substrate of plastics material and opacifying layers applied to the two outer surfaces of the substrate. The method that is known therefrom comprises the steps of irradiating the substrate, the opacifying layers acting to guide the radiation "within" the substrate, whereupon the emission at the "end" of the substrate is detected, after which one or more characteristics of the emission, such as the intensity or the wavelength, are ~~analysed~~ analyzed. The method described in said International application is only suitable for so-called "polymer banknotes", because the light beam must be trapped in the substrate."

On page 3, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 27 as follows:

“SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is thus to provide a method and a device for ~~analysing~~ analyzing banknotes, which method makes it possible to carry out the processing of banknotes at a high speed and with great precision.”

On page 4, above the paragraph beginning on line 3, please insert the following new heading and paragraph as follows:

“BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows a raster which comprises a section measuring 0.08 mm in vertical direction and 1.5 mm in horizontal direction of a transition between two banknotes, in which 20 x 20 pixels having pixel densities of 1-10 are arranged.”

On page 4, please amend paragraph beginning on line 3 as follows:

“DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention as referred to in the introduction is characterized in that the provision of the two-dimensional image is carried out in such a manner that the image is enlarged in the y- direction, which y-direction is defined as the height of the bundle of banknotes.”

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

“In the present description, the analysis comprises the determination of one or more of the following parameters, ~~viz.~~ : the authenticity, the number of banknotes, the value and the fitness of the bundle of banknotes.”

On page 10, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 as follows:

"In order to obtain a so-called cut surface, it is furthermore preferable for the device to comprise a cutting element, which removes an amount of material from a bundle of banknotes in a plane perpendicular to the z-direction, which cut surface of the bundle of banknotes acts is used as the surface to be illuminated or irradiated in the illuminating step. The quality of the cut surface is related to the sharpness of the cutting element. An increasing gleam of the cut surface is an indication of a decreasing quality of the cutting element. In specific embodiments it is desirable, therefore, to use means for measuring the gleam, viz. such as a gleam indicator."

On page 13, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 25 as follows:

"The section is an example of a density distribution obtained from the sensors. A threshold value of e.g. 5 IS then set in this example. Other threshold values are also possible, of course. All densities ≥ 5 are shaded ~~grey~~ gray. Following that, pixels having a density ≥ 5 and the surrounding $n \times m$ pixels are regarded. Of said surrounding $n \times m$ pixels, the density development in the x- and y-directions, and subsequently the gradient of said development, viz. the second derivative, are determined. The pixels exhibiting the greatest gradient changes are interconnected. The horizontal line thus obtained indicates the division between two banknotes, and counting takes place by summing the number of horizontal lines. The maximum value for n in vertical direction is the number of pixels for each banknote thickness (a value of 25 pixels per banknote has been indicated before). The value for m (the horizontal number of pixels) is related to the number of dots of which the horizontal line is built up."